

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An audio signal supply apparatus for supplying an audio signal to a loudspeaker array constituted by a plurality of loudspeaker units, characterized by comprising:

~~a delay means for unit that performing~~ performs a delay process for each of audio signals to be supplied to the loudspeaker units in accordance with provided delay control information;

~~a weighting means for unit that weighting~~ weights each of the audio signal to be supplied to the loudspeaker units in accordance with gain control information that is provided;

~~a storage means for unit that storing~~ stores a first directivity parameter which sets a directional characteristic for the loudspeaker as a narrow directivity, and a second directivity parameter which sets the directional characteristic for the loudspeaker as a wide directivity;

~~an input means for unit that receiving~~ receives a selection instruction for the directional characteristic; and

~~a directivity control means for unit that selecting~~ selects one of the directivity parameters in accordance with the input selection instruction, generates the delay control information and the gain control information based on the selected directivity parameter, and ~~supplying~~ supplies the delay control information and the gain control information to the delay ~~means~~ unit and the weighting ~~means~~ unit, respectively.

2. (Original) The audio signal supply apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an amount of delays indicated by delay control information generated based on the second directivity parameter is 0 or an equal amount.

3. (Currently amended) The audio signal supply apparatus, which supplies an audio signal to a loudspeaker array constituted by a plurality of loudspeaker units, characterized by comprising:

a branching means-for-unit that branching-branches an input audio signal into two or more signals;

a first processing means-for-unit that performing-performs a delay process and/or a weighting process for ~~each of~~ the signal[[s]] that is obtained by branching one audio signal and is to be supplied to the loudspeaker units in accordance with first provided directivity control information;

a second processing means-for-unit that performing-performs a delay process and/or a weighting process for ~~each the~~ signal that is obtained by branching one audio signal and that is to be supplied to the loudspeaker units in accordance with second directivity control information that is provided;

a directivity control means-for-unit that generating-generates the first directivity control information and the second directivity control information so that a directional characteristic of the loudspeaker array obtained by the first process differs from a directional characteristic of the loudspeaker array obtained by the second process, and supplying the generated information respectively to the first processing means-unit and the second processing means-unit; and

an adding means-for-unit that adding-adds the audio signal processed by the first processing means-unit to the audio signal processed by the second processing means-unit.

4. (Original) The audio signal supply apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the directional characteristic of the loudspeaker array obtained through the first process is a narrow directivity, and the directional characteristic of the loudspeaker array obtained through the second process is a wide directivity.

5. (Original) The audio signal supply apparatus according to claim 4, wherein an amount of delays obtained at the delay process performed by the second process is 0 or an equal amount.

6. (Currently amended) The audio signal supply apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

a frequency property correction means for unit that correcting corrects a frequency property for the signals obtained by branching the audio signal is arranged between the branching ~~means~~ unit and the first ~~process~~ means processing unit, and
~~the first process means processes each of the audio signals for which the frequency property is corrected and which are to be supplied to the loudspeaker units in accordance with the first provided directivity control information.~~